

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 19, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 15, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 1, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 23, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 8, 2016

## SENATE BILL

**No. 412**

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**Introduced by Senators Glazer and De León**  
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Baker and Levine)

February 25, 2015

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An act to add and repeal Part 40.2 (commencing with Section 67430) of Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 412, as amended, Glazer. ~~The~~ *Public postsecondary education: The California Promise.*

Existing law establishes the California State University, under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University, and the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as 2 of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state.

This bill would establish the California Promise, which would require specified minimum numbers of campuses of the California State University to establish a California Promise program ~~to~~ *by which the campus would* enter into a pledge with a student who satisfies specified criteria to support the student in ~~obtaining~~ *earning* a baccalaureate degree within 4 academic years, or if the student is a community college

transfer student who earned an associate degree for transfer, within 2 academic years, of the academic year of the student's ~~admission, as defined: first year of enrollment, as specified.~~ The bill would require the trustees to ~~submit~~ *submit, by July 1, 2021,* a report to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature that includes ~~demographic~~ *specified* information about students who participate in the program and a summary description of significant differences in implementation of the program by ~~campus: campuses.~~ The bill would require the trustees to submit ~~recommendations~~ *recommendations, by March 15, 2017,* to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature regarding potential financial incentives that ~~can~~ *could* benefit students who participate in the program. The bill's provisions would be repealed as of January 1, ~~2024: 2026.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Part 40.2 (commencing with Section 67430) is  
2 added to Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

3  
4 PART 40.2. THE CALIFORNIA PROMISE  
5

6 67430. This part shall be known, and may be cited, as the  
7 California Promise.

8 67431. For purposes of this part, the following terms have the  
9 following meanings:

10 (a) "Academic year of the student's ~~admission~~" *first year of*  
11 *enrollment*" means the first full academic year in which a person  
12 is a student at the California State University.

13 (b) "Campus" means a campus within the California State  
14 University system as set forth in Section 89001.

15 (c) "Transfer student" is a ~~community college~~ student who  
16 earned an associate degree for ~~transfer: transfer from a California~~  
17 *community college.*

18 (d) "Trustees" means the Trustees of the California State  
19 University.

20 67432. The California Promise is hereby established to support  
21 ~~students who enroll in the campuses of the California State~~  
22 ~~University in obtaining baccalaureate degrees within four academic~~

1 ~~years of the academic year of the student's admission or within~~  
2 ~~two academic years of the student's admission to the campus for~~  
3 ~~transfer students. California State University students in earning~~  
4 ~~a baccalaureate degree within four academic years of the student's~~  
5 ~~first year of enrollment or, for transfer students within two~~  
6 ~~academic years of the student's first year of enrollment to the~~  
7 ~~campus.~~

8 67433. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

9 ~~(a) This part is needed to facilitate the availability and~~  
10 ~~completion of coursework for degree programs offered by~~  
11 ~~campuses of the California State University and to ensure that~~  
12 ~~students enrolled at these campuses are able to complete~~  
13 ~~baccalaureate degree programs within four academic years of the~~  
14 ~~academic year of the student's admission or within two academic~~  
15 ~~years of the student's admission to the campus for transfer students.~~

16 ~~(b)~~

17 (a) A more concerted, statewide effort to create pathways to  
18 four-year graduation is needed at the California State University.  
19 For the 2010 cohort of full-time, first-time students at the California  
20 State University, 19 percent graduated within four academic years.  
21 According to the Legislative Analyst's Office, the most recent  
22 nationally comparable data shows that the California State  
23 University's overall four-year graduation rate was 16 percent in  
24 2011, below the national rate of 26 percent among similar public  
25 institutions.

26 ~~(c) Impediments to graduating within four academic years~~  
27 ~~include the failure of students to complete sufficient units per~~  
28 ~~academic year and the lack of available high-demand courses.~~

29 (b) *Impediments students face in graduating within four*  
30 *academic years include the inability to complete sufficient units*  
31 *per academic year or take courses that are part of their degree*  
32 *programs.*

33 ~~(d)~~

34 (c) New approaches are critical for the future of higher education  
35 in California. Efforts have been ongoing, though sporadic, to  
36 improve postsecondary educational institution enrollment and  
37 graduation. These efforts will need to be intensified and made  
38 more broadly systemic.

39 ~~(e)~~

1 (d) Students who graduate within four academic years save tens  
2 of thousands of dollars. In addition to the direct costs of extended  
3 college and university enrollment, students miss out on earnings  
4 in the workforce while they remain in school.

5 ~~(f) When California experiences a decline in college and~~  
6 ~~university graduates, the state's economy shrinks and employers~~  
7 ~~seek qualified candidates outside the state. Furthermore, a larger~~  
8 ~~share of the state's workforce is downgraded to lower-paying jobs~~  
9 ~~and consumer behavior and home ownership declines, which leads~~  
10 ~~to plummeting revenues for local and state government and to~~  
11 ~~more people relying on increasingly decimated government~~  
12 ~~services.~~

13 ~~(g)~~  
14 (e) According to the Public Policy Institute of California, if bold  
15 measures are not taken, California will fall short of the state's  
16 economic demand by 1.1 million college and university graduates  
17 by 2030. An increased demand for highly educated workers will  
18 outweigh the number of qualified applicants for available jobs,  
19 which will be exacerbated when scores of highly educated baby  
20 boomers retire. The share of workers with a baccalaureate degree  
21 will be 33 percent in 2030, below the 38 percent that will be  
22 needed.

23 ~~(h)~~  
24 (f) The impact of graduation rates from California State  
25 University campuses is felt not only throughout the state, but also  
26 the nation. One out of every 10 California employees is a California  
27 State University graduate, while one out of every 20 United States  
28 citizens with a college or university degree graduates from a  
29 campus of the California State University. These statistics  
30 emphasize the national importance of graduation rates at California  
31 State University campuses.

32 ~~(i) It is the intent of the Legislature that the California Promise~~  
33 ~~will enable the California State University system to meet and~~  
34 ~~exceed the national average of similar public postsecondary~~  
35 ~~educational institutions as quickly as possible.~~

36 (g) *It is the intent of the Legislature that the California State*  
37 *University system include the California Promise as a component*  
38 *of the plan submitted to the Legislature and the Department of*  
39 *Finance to increase graduation rates at CSU campuses above*  
40 *those at other institutions and increase graduation rates for*

1 *low-income students, first-generation students, and students from*  
2 *underrepresented minority groups as quickly as possible.*

3 (j)

4 (h) The California Promise programs established at the  
5 California State University in accordance with this part should aim  
6 to reflect the demographics of their respective campuses and target  
7 ~~a diverse set of students~~; *campuses and make the benefits provided*  
8 *available on an equitable basis considering the populations*  
9 *attending each campus.*

10 67434. (a) The trustees shall develop and implement a  
11 California Promise program that complies with this part.

12 (b) Commencing with the 2017–18 ~~fiscal~~ *academic* year, a  
13 minimum of eight campuses shall ~~establish~~ *have established* a  
14 California Promise program ~~pursuant to subdivision (a) to enter~~  
15 *by which the campus enters* into a pledge with a qualifying student  
16 who is enrolled at the campus and who is not a transfer student to  
17 support the student in ~~obtaining~~ *earning* a baccalaureate degree  
18 within four academic years of the academic year of the student's  
19 ~~admission~~; *first year of enrollment.*

20 (c) Commencing with the 2017–18 ~~fiscal~~ *academic* year, a  
21 minimum of 15 campuses shall ~~establish~~ *have established* a  
22 California Promise program ~~pursuant to subdivision (a) to enter~~  
23 *by which the campus enters* into a pledge with a qualifying transfer  
24 student to support the student in ~~obtaining~~ *earning* a baccalaureate  
25 degree program within two academic years of the student's  
26 ~~admission~~ *first year of enrollment* to the campus, as applicable.

27 (d) Commencing with the 2018–19 ~~fiscal~~ *academic* year, a  
28 minimum of ~~5 additional campuses for a total minimum of 20~~  
29 campuses shall ~~establish~~ *have established* a California Promise  
30 program ~~pursuant to subdivision (a) to enter~~ *by which the campus*  
31 *enters* into a pledge with a qualifying transfer student to support  
32 the student in ~~obtaining~~ *earning* a baccalaureate degree ~~program~~  
33 within two academic years of the student's ~~admission~~ *first year of*  
34 *enrollment* to the campus, as applicable.

35 (e) ~~Except as provided in paragraph (2) of subdivision (f), to~~  
36 *To be a qualifying entering student or transfer student at the*  
37 California State University, the student must comply with both of  
38 the following:

39 (1) Be a California resident for purposes of in-state tuition  
40 eligibility.

(2) ~~Complete-Commit to completing~~ at least 30 semester units or the quarter equivalent per academic year. Units completed by the student during a summer term may count towards the previous or following academic year as determined by the trustees.

~~(f) (1) Each program established by the trustees at a California State University campus shall be reviewed by a graduation initiative advisory committee of that campus or a committee designated with similar functions. The committee shall ensure the goals of the program and implementation steps lead to increasing the campus' four-year graduation rates for students who enrolled as first-time freshman and two-year graduation rates for transfer students, as applicable.~~

~~(2) The committee at each campus shall develop additional eligibility requirements to prioritize specific student populations that have lower four-year graduation rates at the campus for those who enroll as first-time freshman and lower two-year graduation rates for those who enroll as transfer students, including, but not limited to, all of the following student populations:~~

~~(A) Students who receive financial aid under the Federal Pell Grant Program (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1070a) or the Cal Grant Program established in Chapter 1.7 (commencing with Section 69430) of Part 42.~~

~~(B) Underrepresented students.~~

~~(C) First-generation college students.~~

*(f) Each College Promise program shall be reviewed by a graduation initiative advisory committee of the campus or a committee with similar functions designated by the president of the campus.*

*(g) (1) A campus shall guarantee participation in the program to, at a minimum, any student who is any of the following:*

*(A) A low-income student. For purposes of this section, "low-income student" shall have the same meaning as specified in Section 89295.*

*(B) A student who has graduated from a high school located in a community that is underrepresented in college attendance.*

*(C) A student who is a first-generation college student.*

*(D) A transfer student.*

~~(3)~~

~~(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that the California Promise program at each campus gradually scale up in order to~~

1 accommodate as many students into the program as feasible and  
2 in consideration of available funding.

3 ~~(g)~~

4 (h) Support provided by a California State University campus  
5 to a student who participates in the campus' California Promise  
6 program shall include, but not *necessarily* be limited to, both of  
7 the following:

8 (1) (A) Priority registration in coursework. ~~For purposes of this~~  
9 ~~paragraph, both of the following shall apply:~~

10 (B) ~~A~~ *For purposes of this paragraph, a student shall not receive*  
11 *priority registration in coursework under the program if he or she*  
12 *qualifies for priority registration under another policy or program,*  
13 *as determined by the campus or the Office of the Chancellor of*  
14 *the California State University.*

15 ~~(C) A student shall only receive priority registration in~~  
16 ~~coursework over other students within his or her cohort of students,~~  
17 ~~as determined by the campus or the Office of the Chancellor of~~  
18 ~~the California State University.~~

19 (C) *A graduation initiative advisory committee of the campus,*  
20 *or a committee with similar functions designated by the president*  
21 *of the campus, shall consider pre-existing priority registration*  
22 *policies when implementing this section.*

23 (2) Academic advisement that includes monitoring the student's  
24 academic progress.

25 ~~(h)~~

26 (i) (1) The trustees shall develop application criteria,  
27 administrative guidelines, and additional requirements, including  
28 how campuses will measure student success, for purposes of  
29 implementing and administering the California Promise program.

30 ~~(2) Requirements developed in accordance with paragraph (1)~~  
31 ~~may include a requirement that a student who participates in a~~  
32 ~~California Promise program maintain a minimum grade point~~  
33 ~~average determined by the student's campus.~~

34 (2) *As a condition of continued participation in a California*  
35 *Promise program, a student may be required to demonstrate both*  
36 *of the following:*

37 (A) *Completion of at least 30 semester units, or the quarter*  
38 *equivalent, in each prior academic year.*

39 (B) *Attainment of a grade point average in excess of a standard*  
40 *established by the campus.*

1     ~~(3) In developing requirements for the California Promise~~  
2 ~~program, implementing this part,~~ the trustees shall take into  
3 consideration the report on graduation rates required pursuant to  
4 Item 6610-001-0001 of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2016.

5     ~~(i)~~

6     ~~(j)~~ (1) The trustees shall submit a report to the appropriate  
7 policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature by July 1, 2021,  
8 that includes all of the following:

9     (A) ~~The total number of students participating in the program~~  
10 ~~in total, by campus, and disaggregated by individual campus and~~  
11 ~~all of based on the following:~~

12     ~~(i) Transfer students and students who enroll as first-time~~  
13 ~~freshman.~~

14     ~~(ii) First-generation college students.~~

15     ~~(i) Whether the student entered as a first-time freshman or a~~  
16 ~~transfer student.~~

17     ~~(ii) Whether the student is a first-generation college student.~~

18     ~~(iii) Recipients~~ Whether the student is a recipient of financial  
19 aid under the Federal Pell Grant Program (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1070a)  
20 or the Cal Grant Program established in Chapter 1.7 (commencing  
21 with Section 69430) of Part 42.

22     ~~(iv) Student~~ According to the student's ethnicity.

23     (B) The total number of students who graduated in four  
24 academic years for students who ~~enrolled~~ entered as first-time  
25 ~~freshman freshmen,~~ and two academic years for transfer students;  
26 ~~disaggregated by individual campus and years, for students who~~  
27 ~~entered as transfer students, in total, by campus, and disaggregated~~  
28 ~~based on the characteristics identified in clauses (i) to (iv),~~  
29 ~~inclusive, or subparagraph (A).~~

30     ~~(2) The trustees shall submit a report to the appropriate policy~~  
31 ~~and fiscal committees of the Legislature by July 1, 2019, that~~  
32 ~~includes the total number of the first cohort of transfer students~~  
33 ~~participating in the program, disaggregated by individual campus~~  
34 ~~and the characteristics listed in clauses (ii) to (iv), inclusive, of~~  
35 ~~subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1).~~

36     ~~(3)~~

37     (2) The reports required in paragraphs (1) and (2) report  
38 required by paragraph (1) shall include a summary description of  
39 significant differences regarding in the implementation of the  
40 California Promise program by campus, including, but not limited



1 to, the prioritization of student populations pursuant to paragraph  
2 (2) of subdivision (f) if applicable, the role of academic advising,  
3 and the implementation of priority registration: *at each campus.*

4 (j)

5 (k) The trustees shall submit recommendations to the appropriate  
6 policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature by March 15, 2017,  
7 regarding potential financial incentives that ~~can~~ *could* benefit  
8 students who participate in the California Promise ~~program,~~  
9 ~~including, but not limited to, incentives for qualifying students~~  
10 ~~who are unable to graduate within four or two academic years, as~~  
11 ~~applicable, due to a lack of course offerings.~~ *program.*

12 (k)

13 (l) A student who successfully completes his or her associate  
14 degree for transfer at a community college shall be guaranteed  
15 participation in the California Promise program at the California  
16 State University transfer campus, if established.

17 (t)

18 (m) The trustees shall make every effort to close the achievement  
19 gap and encourage broad participation in a California Promise  
20 program that reflects ~~a participating campus' demographics.~~ *the*  
21 *demographic populations served by the campus.*

22 67435. This part shall remain in effect only until January 1,  
23 2024, 2026, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted  
24 statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2024, 2026, deletes or  
25 extends that date.